

While we still have a long road ahead of us to a full and robust recovery, the economic policies enacted by Congress and the President are moving our economy in the right direction.

Over the past few months, our economy has added more than 200,000 jobs a month – including growth in manufacturing. By comparison, in the last three months President Bush was in office, we lost an average of 726,000 jobs a month.

We have also seen three consecutive quarters of economic growth, with a 3% GDP increase in the first quarter of this year.

I have worked to secure Federal funding in the annual appropriations bills to help local companies create jobs.

I worked with Senator Kohl to secure funding for C&D Technologies on East Keefe Avenue in Milwaukee to develop advanced battery technology. Some estimates show that this project will create 150 jobs over the next three years.

Additionally, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, which was passed by Congress with my support and signed into law last year, was a major factor in attracting companies like Ingeteam and Talgo to Milwaukee to create jobs.

Ingeteam received \$1.66 million in clean-energy tax credits and is expected to employ 275 people in the Menomonee Valley when its first American wind energy technology manufacturing plant becomes fully operational. And the Recovery Act's focus on high-speed rail brought 125 direct jobs to Milwaukee as Talgo sets up shop at the old Tower Automotive site to build passenger train cars.

In Congress, we are working on legislation that will help create jobs here in the 4th Congressional District and nationwide.

The House has passed legislation to expand a successful summer jobs program that would help 300,000 more teens find work so they can help support their families and learn skills to help them gain future, long-term employment.

The House also passed legislation that will help create jobs for construction workers and create incentives for homeowners to make energy efficiency upgrades.

I am a strong supporter of legislation that would help cities and states hire more teachers, police officers and other public employees, who we rely on nearly every day.

And here at home I recently met with the chief federal trade negotiator, U.S. Trade Representative Ron Kirk, and representatives from major Wisconsin exporters, including Harley Davidson and Oshkosh Corporation to discuss ways to increase our exports to help create jobs. Last year, Wisconsin companies exported \$16.7 billion worth of goods made in our state, and nearly 200,000 jobs throughout the state rely on exports.